



HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY RESEARCH GROUP

**Practising Historical Geographies (#PHG2020)
Conference 2020
ONLINE via Zoom**

Decolonising Historical Geographies.

**Tuesday 24th November 2020 – 12:00 noon – 3pm GMT
and
Tuesday 8th December 2020 – 12:00 noon – 3pm GMT**

**Registration for delegates by 23rd November 2020:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/practising-historical-geography-2020-tickets-126216800849>**

Note: all times listed in the programme are set at GMT / London time in order for maximum global virtual attendance.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This workbook has been designed to accompany the 26th Practising Historical Geographies (PHG) conference of the HGRG-RGS. It is first PHG to be organised online in order to adapt to 2020 global pandemic. We hope it runs smoothly and this workbook serves as a unifying document connecting the two sessions that together form this year's PHG conference. The workbook is both a guide to the sessions as well as a resource for your ongoing research practise.

The theme of Practising Historical Geographies conference 2020 is a pressing and prescient one. At its heart are questions of equity and access, of racial justice and creating more capacious historical geographical research and knowledges both empirically, but also in the personnel and praxis of how, where and why historical geographers do the work they do.

At a time of increasing political polarity, contrived media 'culture wars' targeting historians and humanities research and public engagement attempt to destabilise efforts for greater equity in how historical geographies are practised and performed.

The HGRG Practising Historical Geographies Conference aligns its core values of access and inclusivity with the ambitions of the Royal Historical Society and the Royal Geographical Society's RACE group. It asks much of practitioners to think both critically, constructively, and deeply about who is enabled to undertake academic research, citation inclusivity, where research documents are sourced, how they are interpreted and used, and asks to question the archive and institutions as spaces that replicate inequalities. It asks much of practitioners themselves, of the assumptions, presumptions and privileges we variously have and hold and of creating space and possibility for more capacious, equitable worlds that connect through our research work.

The theme of this conference is intended as a starting point to discussions for reflexive praxis and ongoing action: to facilitate diverse, inclusive and anti-racist ways forward with the research, writing and knowledge-making by historical geographers across all stages of their scholarly careers and across institutional and transdisciplinary spaces.

These themes and discussions are not new, and themselves have their own historical geographies of silencing and attempts at erasure, attempts that can be felt in contemporary times. As such, this year's conference theme connects across spaces of historical geographical research spanning theoretical and ideological approaches, methodological praxis, archival and material cultures, arts, sciences and humanities.

Institutional structures, systems and spaces across a range of scales compound to make contingent knowledge-making via the sites of production, circulation and reception of research and how that research intersects across diverse publics. It is a theme that is broad and has garnered debate and discussion about the ways 'decolonising' as a term is used and what it means in contingent, tangible quotidian terms.

This conference and workbook are here to provide safe and supportive ways through which to listen deeply and learn from practitioners who have worked across fields of heritage, curating and archives across the last few decades, and space through which to consider making decolonising ways forward in the making and remaking of historical geographies.

This workbook will be referred to across both sessions that together make up the virtual PHG 2020. Please ensure you have access to it for these sessions.

Workshop resources are referenced in this booklet and link to the online PDFs, but should you have difficulty in accessing key documents, please do not hesitate to contact the conference officer (joanne.norcup@warwick.ac.uk) and they will be forwarded to you.

We hope you enjoy the conference,
HGRG Committee.

Online Etiquette Guidelines.

- Do not share the meeting password with anyone. All attendees will be informed of the password through an Eventbrite email.
- Use your full name to enter the meeting so that you can be checked against the Eventbrite list of attendees. If you cannot be identified, you will not be allowed to enter.
- Adhere to the Code of Conduct throughout the Symposium. Anyone failing to do this will be ejected from the event.
- Keep your microphone muted unless you are speaking.
- If possible, use headphones when you are talking to avoid feedback.
- If you would like to ask a question or contribute to a discussion, then please use the ‘raise hand’ feature and wait for the Chair to call on you. Alternatively, you can ask your question/make your point in the Chat, and the chair will read out your question/point.

Code of Conduct

The Historical Geography Research Group aims to be open, accessible, and welcoming to all. We treat each other with kindness and respect, and we will hold attendees of Practising Historical Geography to the same standards. We operate a zero-tolerance approach towards bullying, discrimination, harassment, and intimidation. Any participant who engages in discriminatory or offensive behaviour, language, gestures, or imagery will be ejected from the symposium.

Any criticism should be directed at the issue or the idea, not the person. Critical feedback should also be constructive.

Tips for Using Zoom

Most of you are probably familiar with Zoom by now, but if you’re not, the Zoom Help Centre is very good: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206175806>. During the Symposium, you will need to use the following functions. If you are unsure about any of them, it’s worth having a look at these guides in advance:

- In-meeting chat: [https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/203650445-In-meeting- chat](https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/203650445-In-meeting-chat)

- Raise hand: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/205566129-Raising-your-hand-In-a-webinar>

If you wish to use this workbook beyond the HGRG Practising Historical Geography Conference 2020 in your teaching / seminars or as a reference, please cite it using the following reference:

Joanne Norcup & HGRG (2020) Practising Historical Geography Conference 2020 Workbook: Decolonising Historical Geography. Geography Workshop Productions.

NOTES

2. PROGRAMME FOR 24th NOVEMBER (SESSION 1) and 8th DECEMBER (SESSION 2).

Tuesday 24th November 2020 Session 1

12:00	Welcome and Introduction (10 mins) Decolonising Historical Geographies An introduction to the theme	Cheryl McGeachan, Chair, HGRG (University of Glasgow) Joanne Norcup, Conference Officer HGRG (University of Warwick / Nottingham)
12:20	Keynote Finding place and family heritage in the archive: genealogical geographies for the people of Punjabi descent. (45 mins + 10 mins Q&A)	Chandan Mahal (QMUL)
13:15	Rest / tea break (5 mins)	
13:30 – 14:20	Workshop 1 Small group reading and reflections and feeding back to delegates (including a 5–10 minute rest / tea break)	Group work. Delegates will be allocated to a breakout group chaired by a member of the HGRG in which to reflect on a selection of excerpts
14:30	Postgraduate Reflections	Catherine Oliver (University of Cambridge) Also read Catherine Oliver’s 2020 postgraduate reflections piece https://rgspostgradforum.org/postgrad-life-the-blog/a-welcome-and-a-warning-from-a-postdoctoral-researcher
14:50	Conclusions and action points for session 2 (10 mins)	Joanne Norcup Suggested reading (Workshop booklet)

Tuesday 8th December 2020 Session 2

12:00	Welcome, recap, and aim for the session	Cheryl McGeachan, Joanne Norcup, Hannah Awcock
12:15	Keynote 2 ‘Only one recipe for decolonising historical cultures? Personal insights from the heritage sector’(45 minutes + 10 min Q&A)	Keynote: Clifford Pereira FRGS (Heritage Consultant and Researcher)
13:10	Rest / Tea break	
13:15	Workshop 2 Decolonising historical praxis – practical action points.	Reflecting on readings from Workshop 1, scaffold questions to think about how you might decolonise your

	<p>Reflecting on delegates own work and research plans, discussion around one of the three readings from last session that has facilitated broader questions about the process of undertaking research</p>	<p>specific area of research interest. Consider: *Literature used / citation practise; *Methodologies (approaches / framework / archives), *Analytical approaches, outputs (whose ideas are you applying? What are the effects and consequences of such ideas in terms of voices heard / erased? How, what and where do you see your work being of use? How will you sustain and maintain connections and work with the archives you use and for whose benefit?)</p> <p>Time to work individually and across your group to discuss approaches and note down questions for further consideration to help inform / reflect on your own practise.</p>
14:15	<p>Screening of Decolonise The Archive (DTA) film <i>Whilst you archive me</i> (Nadeem Din-Gabisi, Etienne Joseph, Connie Bell)</p> <p>https://www.decolonisingthearchive.com/archive-me</p> <p>Also read Etienne Joseph and Connie Bell (2020) Everything is everything: Embodiment, affect, and the Black Atlantic archive. Themed intervention. <i>TIBG</i> http://doi.org/10.1111/tran.12380</p> <p>For further details about DTA and their projects see https://www.decolonisingthearchive.com</p>	
14:30	<p>Final reflections and end of PHG 2020</p> <p>Ongoing conversations are encouraged and welcomed.</p> <p>HGRG Virtual Writing Retreat 2021 January 5th – 7th (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) 2021 we will be having our annual virtual HGRG ‘Writing Retreat’. All historical geographers across all stages of writing research and careers are welcome to join in as much or as little as personally needed / able. This is an opportunity to connect between with historical geographers and be in virtual company to work on whatever research / writing work you are undertaking. Previous years have proven popular and those taking part have found it enjoyable to start the new year by clearing some or all of the</p>	

three days in which to attend to research. If you wish to take part, you are free to do so and can share as much or as little via the hashtag #HGRG_VWR2021. For further details please check HGRG website from the 15th December 2020.

Decolonising Historical Geographies: a selection of recommended reading and resources.

- James R Akerman (2017) Decolonizing the Map. University of Chicago Press.
- Ana Lucia Araujo (2020) Slavery in the Age of Memory: Engaging the Past. Bloomsbury Academic.
- Caroline Bressey (2015) Empire, Race, and the Politics of Anti-Caste. Bloomsbury Academic.
- Angela Y Davis (2019) Women, Race, and Class. Penguin Classics.
- Akwugo Emejulu and Francesca Sobande (eds.) (2019) To Exist is to Resist: Black Feminism in Europe. Pluto Press.
- Edouard Glissant (1999) Caribbean Discourses: Selected Essays. University of Virginia Press.
- Mark Griffiths and Kate Baker (2019) Decolonising the spaces of geographical knowledge production: The RGS-IBG at Kensington Gore. Area. <https://doi.org/10.1111/area.12586>
- Dan Hicks (2020) The British Museums: The Benin Bronzes, Colonial Violence and Cultural Restitution. Pluto Press.
- Tariq Jazeel (2019) Postcolonialism (Key Ideas in Geography). Routledge.
- Azeezat Johnston, Remy Joseph-Salisbury and Beth Kamunge (eds.) (2018) The Fire Now: Anti-racist scholarship in times of explicit racial violence. Zed Books
- Walter D Mignolo and Catherine E Walsh (eds.) (2018) On Decoloniality: Concepts, Analytics, Praxis. Duke University Press.
- Olivette Otele (2020) African Europeans: An Untold History. Hurst.
- Rhodes Must Fall, Oxford (2018) Rhodes Must fall: The struggle to decolonise the racist heart of Empire. Zed Books.
- Walter Rodney (2018) How Europe Underdeveloped Africa. Verso Press,
- Mark Sealy (2019) Decolonising the Camera: Photography and Racial Time. Lawrence Wishart.
- Linda Tuhiwai Smith (2012) Decolonising Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples. Second Edition. Zed Books.
- Michel-Rolph Trouillot (2015) Silencing the Past: Power and the production of history. New forward by Hazel V. Carby. Beacon Press.

Multi-media references, a small UK based selection of suggested sites

- Carol Ann Dixon's website Museum Geographies <https://www.museumgeographies.wordpress.com>
- Colonial Countryside <https://www.colonialcountryside.wordpress.com>
- The Natural Sciences Collections Association (NatSCA) <https://natsca.org/about-us>
- The Black Curriculum <https://theblackcurriculum.com>
- *Slavery archive Book Club <https://slaveryarchive.wordpress.com>
- Steve McQueen (2020) 'Black people are weirdly missing from the narrative'. Editorial of the Observer New Review in relation to McQueen's film anthology, Small Axe [films in November/December 2020 currently stream via BBC iPlayer in

the UK and in the US via Amazon Prime] <https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/2020/nov/steve-mcqueen-black-people-are-weirdly-missing-from-the-narrative-small-axe-mangrove-viola-davis-idris-elba-bernadine-evaristo>

3. 24TH NOVEMBER 2020 – SESSION 1 – REFERENCES AND WORKSHOP RESOURCES.

KEYNOTE 1 – CHANDAN MAHAL – *FINDING PLACE AD FAMILY HERITAGE IN THE ARCHIVE: GENEALOGICAL GEOGRAPHIES FOR PEOPLE OF PUNJABI DESCENT.*

Chandan Mahal has over twenty years' experience of working in museums and archives, managing and developing education and community engagement programmes for diverse audiences. Chandan is currently the National Learning and Partnership Manager at the British Library for the Unlocking Our Sound Heritage project. Chandan is completing her PhD research with Queen Mary University of London and the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), which explores the relationships between family, place and diaspora, working collaboratively with people of Punjabi descent living in London.

NOTES

WORKSHOP 1: DECOLONISING HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHIES

In your allocated break out groups you will be given approximately half an hour to read two articles, one from the Decolonising Learned Societies heading and the other of your choice from a selection of short papers.

It is important that in every group, each of the Decolonising Learned Societies documents is read in order that a summary may be made within your groups to reflect on what is / isn't being done and what tensions there are between historical and geographical learned societies in relation to how they comprehend decolonising, equality, anti-racism and making decolonising historical geographies.

The second section concerns a range of articles written that connect across ideas of decolonising history and historical geographies – How does the article you choose to read from this selection make you think about ways forward for decolonising historical geography research?

You will then have time to discuss these within your group with a couple of overall findings to be shared with other delegates at the end of the workshop session.

You have approximately 30 minutes to skim read and a further 15 – 20 minutes to discuss this within your groups before we will reconvene for broader discussions and action points.

For all delegates, please try to read an additional couple of suggested readings before the second workshop session (8th December). This is entirely optional, but the resources within this workbook, will, we hope, support your broader reading in more general terms across your studies.

Reading and resources for Workshop 1

Decolonising Learned Societies

As historical geographers it is important to reflect on how the learned societies attached to historical research and geographical research have and continue to engage with ideas of racial justice and equality as part of ongoing intellectual and knowledge-making commitments and in the shaping and framing of the cultural practices within these societies.

In your groups please allocate one of the documents below for members of the group to read and then discuss the following in relation to institutional commitments to decolonising societies and the ways in which race, ethnicity and equality can be read.

What is made explicit? What is vague?

How are discussions of race, ethnicity and equity being proactively dealt with by these learned societies? What is clearly spelt out by the RHS that isn't by the RGS? What do the silences and omissions imply? Does this matter? If so, why? How might the history

and roles of each respective learned society factor in the shaping and framing of their commitments? What are the consequences of having statements without goal focused deadlines and targets? What are the consequences of doing nothing? What are the consequences of saying you will do something?

What does and doesn't this say about each learned society institution in relation to decolonizing learned societies?

What might the RGS do further in order to move forward their explicit statements and commitments to racial, ethnic and equality in UK Geography? What might the HGRG do in order to pursue more proactive engagements with these pressing issues?

Royal Historical Society documents concerning race, ethnicity and equality.

- Royal Historical Society Race Report (2018) Race, Ethnicity and Equality in UK History https://files.royalhistsoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/17205337/RHS_race_report_EMBARGO_0001_18Oct.pdf
- Race, Ethnicity and Equality in UK history: Roadmap for Change update (2019) <https://royalhistsoc.org/policy/race/>

also see Jonathan Saha (2018) The RHS Race, Ethnicity & Equality Report: A Response to Critics <https://www.historyworkshop.org.uk/the-rhs-race-ethnicity-report-a-response-to-critics/>

Royal Geographical Society's statements and commitments to equality and diversity.

- Royal Geographical Society – Equality and diversity in Geography <https://www.rgs.org/research/equality-and-diversity-in-geography/>
- RGS-IBG Strategic Plan 2017 – 2021 <https://www.rgs.org/getattachment/About/The-Society/Strategy/RGS-IBG-Strategic-Plan-2017-2021.pdf?lang=en-GB>

In addition to the documents above, please read **one** of the papers below during the workshop.– What thoughts and reflections does this bring to mind regarding decolonizing historical geographies in light of what you have read regarding learned societies and their statements?

Please read one or two of these suggested readings before Workshop 2 in order to help informing reflecting on aspects of your own research work and practice.

1. Meleisa Ono-George (2019) Beyond diversity: anti-racist pedagogy in British History Departments, *Women's History Review*, 28:3, 500-507, <https://doi.org/10.1080/09612025.2019.1584151>
2. Amanda Behm, Christienna Fryer, Emma Hunter, Elizabeth Leake, Su Lin Lewis, Sarah Davenport (2020) Decolonising History: Enquiry and Practise. *History Workshop Journal* 89/ Spring 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1093/hwj/dbz052>
3. What does it mean to decolonize History teaching and research at SOAS <https://www.historyworkshop.org.uk/what-does-it-mean-to-decolonise-history-teaching-and-research-at-soas/>
4. Sarah Radcliffe (2017) Decolonising geographical knowledges (2017) *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 42: 3 <https://doi.org/10.1111/tran.12195>

5. James Esson, Patricia Noxolo, Richard Baxter, Patricia Daley and Margaret Byron (2017) The 2017 RGS-IBG chair's theme: Decolonising geographical knowledges or reproducing coloniality. *Area* 49:3 384 – 388, <https://doi.org/10.1111/area.12371>
6. Patricia Noxolo (2017) Decolonial theory in a time of the re-colonisation of UK research. *TIBG* 42:3 <https://doi.org/10.1111/tran.12202>
7. Race, Culture and Equality Working Group <https://raceingeography.org>
8. Natalie Hyacinth (2019) Black Archives in the UK Report: Opportunities, Challenges and Moving Forward. <https://raceingeographydotorg.files.wordpress.com/2019/08/race-group-report-july-2019-proofread.pdf>
9. Aleema Gray (2019) The Rastafari In Britain: Writing Community-Engaged History. History Workshop Online <https://www.historyworkshop.org.uk/the-rastafari-in-britain>
10. Hélène Maloigne (2020) Friendship and Fieldwork. History Workshop Online <https://www.historyworkshop.org.uk/friendship-and-fieldwork/>
11. Aretina R Hamilton (2020) The white unseen: on white supremacy and dangerous entanglements in geography. *Dialogues in Human Geography* <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2043820620966489>

NOTES

CATHERINE OLIVER POSTGRADUATE REFLECTIONS

Dr Catherine Oliver completed her doctorate *Towards a Beyond-Human Geography: veganism and multispecies worlds of the past, present and future* at the School of Geography, University of Birmingham and is currently a research associate in the Department of Geography, University of Cambridge where Dr Oliver researchers about Urban Ecologies: Urban chickens and enmeshed multispecies lives in London.

Catherine Oliver (2019) (dis-) Belonging bodies: negotiating outsider-ness at academic conferences. *Gender Place & Culture* 27: 6 <https://doi.org/10.1080/0966369X.2019.1609913>

Also

<https://rgspostgradforum.org/postgrad-life-the-blog/a-welcome-and-a-warning-from-a-postdoctoral-researcher>

Also see

1. H  l  ne Maloigne (2020) Friendship and Fieldwork. History Workshop Online <https://www.historyworkshop.org.uk/friendship-and-fieldwork/>

For more about radical kindness and reshaping academic praxis consider joining Dr Sarah Burton November 27th for free lecture The Space for Kindness in the Neoliberal academy 1pm (GMT) https://www.city.ac.uk/events/2020/november/sarah-burton-the-space-for-kindness-in-the-neoliberal-academy/_recache

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4. 8TH DECEMBER 2020 – SESSION 2 – REFERENCES AND WORKSHOP RESOURCES.

KEYNOTE 2 – CLIFFORD PEREIRA FRGS (HERITAGE RESEARCHER)

‘ONLY ONE RECIPE FOR DECOLONISING HISTORICAL CULTURES? PERSONAL INSIGHTS FROM THE HERITAGE SECTOR’.

Clifford Pereira has spent the last thirty years working as curator, archivist, and researcher undertaking work to recover global historical geographies curating and researching for numerous Royal Geographical Society exhibitions (including the Bombay African strand of the ‘Crossing Continents: Connecting Communities’ project and Terra Nova for the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) in 2007 and more recently as photography researcher for Jamaican Hidden Histories (Tuareg Productions / Jamaican High Commission, 2013). Clifford’s extensive work explores the historical geographies of global African diasporas in particular the Afro-Asian worlds as well as Afro-European, and his journal articles and book chapters have been translated and featured in academic publications across the globe since 2000.

Selected bibliography

Chapters in edited works.

Pereira, C., ‘Representing the East and West India links to the British Country House: The London Borough of Bexley and the wider heritage picture’. In *Slavery and the British Country House*. (Chapter 12). (Eds) Madge Dresser & Dr. Andrew Hann. (Swindon, English Heritage, 2013). (Eds) Laura Jane Smith et al. (London: English Heritage, 2011)

Pereira, C. & Patel, V., ‘Terra Nova for the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG): 2007 and the Bombay African Strand of the ‘Crossing Continents: Connecting Communities’ Project’.

(Part III, Chapter 10). In *Representing Enslavement and Abolition in Museums: Ambiguous Engagements*. (Eds) Laura Jane Smith et al. (Abingdon: Routledge, 2011)

Pereira, C., ‘Goans of the North Atlantic: A Transnational Study of Migration, Technology Adoption and Neoculturation over Six Generations’. (Chapter 8). In *Migration, technology and Transculturation: A Global Perspective*. (Eds) Dr. Myna German and Dr. Padmini Banerjee. (St. Charles: Lindenwood University Press, 2011)

Pereira, C., ‘Nineteenth Century European References to the African Diaspora in the Arabian Peninsula’. In *Uncovering the History of Africans in Asia*. (Chapter 7). (Eds) Dr. Shihan de Silva Jayasuriya & Dr. Jean-Pierre Angenont. (Leiden: BRILL, 2008)

Pereira, C., ‘The Bombay Africans and the Freretown Settlement’. (Chapter 4). In *TADIA. The African Diaspora in Asia. Exploration of a Less Known fact*. (Eds) Dr. Kiran Kamal Prasad and Dr. Jean-Pierre Angenot. (Bangalore: Jana Jagrati Prakashana, 2006)

Journals.

Pereira, C., 'Fabric of Enslavement: Panos de Terra'. Africa Magazine (OJS) Volume 2. No.3 2015. África(s) - Revista do Programa de Pós –Graduação em Estudos Africanos e Representações da África. (Ed) Dr. Ivaldo de França Lima. (Salvador: Uni. do Est. de Bahia, 2017)

Pereira, C., 'Les Africains de Bombay et la colonie de Freretown'. In Cahiers des Anneaux de la Mémoire. No. 9. De l'Afrique á l'Extrême-Orient. (Ed) Dr. Jean-Marc Masseaut. (Nantes: Les Anneaux de la mémoire, 2000, 2006)

Published Conference Papers.

Pereira, C., 'Developing a new historiography – The Mao Kun map as a case study'. (Volume 3. Session 14. Pp. 1001-1013). In Proceedings of the 3rd Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Underwater Cultural Heritage. (Eds) Bill Jeffry et al. (Hong Kong: 2017)

Pereira, C., 'East in the West: Investigating the Asian Presence and influence in Brazil from the sixteenth to the early eighteenth centuries'. (Volume I. Sessions 6.). In Proceedings of the 2nd Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Underwater Cultural Heritage. (Eds) Hans Van Tilburg et al. (Honolulu: 2014)

Pereira, C., 'Luso-Asian influences in Macaronesia'. In Proceedings on the Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Underwater Cultural Heritage. (Eds) Dr. Mark Staniforth et al. (Manila: 2011)

Pereira, C., 'The Bombay Africans and the Freretown Settlement'. (Chapter IV). In TADIA. The African Diaspora in Asia. Exploration of a Less Known fact. (Eds) Dr. Kiran Kamal Prasad and Dr. Jean-Pierre Angenot. (Bangalore: Jana Jagrati Prakashana, 2006)

YouTube

Canada's Secret Sailors: Asian Crewmen and Canadian Vessels in the Indo-Pacific Theatres.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T5ZKhXxkCfA>

Websites.

UNESCO Slave Route Project. Black Liberators: The Role of African & Arab sailors in the Royal Navy within the Indian Ocean 1841-1941. Clifford Pereira.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T5ZKhXxkCfA>

NOTES

WORKSHOP 2: DECOLONISING YOUR OWN HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY RESEARCH.

Reflecting on keynotes, presentations, your readings and workshop 1, use the table below as a suggested scaffold to brainstorm and pose questions about your own approach, interpersonal professional working practices, proposed methods, analytical framings and projected outcomes. What can you do in your research life and work to pursue decolonising historical geographies? What one action point can you take forward from this workshop? This can be as specific or as general as you need. It might be to read more? To be more aware of your presumptions and assumptions? It might be to find out more about the RACE working group of the RGS? It might be finding ways in which to work more across HGRG and RACE groups?

<p>Decolonising my historical geography research</p> <p>Your research title</p>	<p>How have you come to do the historical research you propose to do?</p>
<p>Your Research question(s)?</p>	<p>How are they framed? Whose ideas / framings inform your initial questions? (your tutor / supervisor? Your own? How do you connect and create the networks you need to do your work? What ideas / theoretical approaches inform your literature review? Whose voices are included? Who are you citing? How might your research framings omit potential for polyvocality? Whose voices are omitted? Where and how might you source and locate alternative readings, writers and literatures?</p>
<p>Your methodologies</p> <p>-</p>	<p>How do you intend to undertake your research? What material artefacts / archives are you working with? Who and how are you accessing these? What methods are you deploying? How might alternative methodological strategies be utilised?</p>

Your Analysis	<p>What and how do you propose to interpret your findings?</p> <p>What challenges have you encountered?</p> <p>What have you found a challenge?</p> <p>How might you lean into and listen to the spaces that cause unease?</p> <p>How might such experiences affect the kind of findings you have come to?</p>
Your outcomes / outputs	<p>What plans do you have for your research?</p> <p>Who are your intended audiences?</p> <p>How might your work connect transdisciplinary?</p> <p>Where in the world do you intend to publish?</p> <p>Translations? Languages?</p> <p>Non-written outputs (art / curation / heritage / education)? How might you connect to different publics? Who benefits?</p>

Consider your area of chosen research or area of research interest - How might you begin to ask broader decolonising questions around the contextual and contingent ways the archives you will be using may / may not be affected by historically inherited power relations? How do you archives perpetuate these? Who is missing from the archives and why? What do the gaps, silences and omissions provoke with regard to questions of intersectionality and equity?

Reflect on and consider Oliver's experiences (session 1) and what both keynotes have discussed and insights with those of what *decolonising* as an adjective means in the context of undertaking historical geographical research and work:

- In the (online) archive
- How digital technologies alter / impact potentials for geographies of inclusion and exclusion in the research process
- Through networks
- In the literature cited
- In the ideas and empirical materials under investigation and research
- In the shaping and framing of analysis
- In the writing and voicing of findings and further research
- Paying it forward. If people make places, then historical geographers make historical geography: how do behaviours or tacit codes of conduct alter and affect ways of making decolonising historical geographies

Recommended reading for Workshop 2.

Look through suggested readings from Workshop 1, and reflect on discussions found in papers by Gray (2019) and Oliver (2019).

Also look through blog posts and website curated and created by Dr Carol Dixon (Sheffield)
<https://museumgeographies.com>

Also

<https://citeblackwomencollective.org/>

NOTES

POST WORKSHOP FILM

Screening of Decolonise The Archive (DTA) film *Whilst you archive me* (Nadeem Din-Gabisi, Etienne Joseph, Connie Bell)

<https://www.decolonisingthearchive.com/archive-me>

Also read Etienne Joseph and Connie Bell (2020) Everything is everything: Embodiment, affect, and the Black Atlantic archive. Themed intervention. *TIBG*

<http://doi.org/10.1111/tran.12380>

For further details about DTA and their projects see <https://www.decolonisingthearchive.com>

NOTES

5. ACTION POINTS TO SUPPORT ONWARD DISCUSSIONS AND HGRG VIRTUAL WRITING RETREAT 2021 DETAILS

The HGRG endeavours to create a supportive, safe, inclusive and collegial on-going space through which all scholars and practitioners of historical geographical research – wherever they are in the world and at whatever stage of career within and outwith academia, heritage, arts, humanities and education research are able to connect and find support.

To this end we would cordially invite you to join in as much or as little in January 2021 for the HGRG Virtual Writing Retreat. Over three days (**January 5th 2021 – January 7th 2021**) historical geographers wishing to feel in virtual company can ‘join’ in a writing retreat. A suggested timetable and support materials to help you make the most out of your time and to help you focus on your historical writing will be uploaded on the HGRG website by 15th December 2020. Please join in as much or as little as you find useful. The event will be documented via Twitter using the hashtag #HGRG_VWR2021 for people to share their progress, word counts for the day, or just to connect and share words of encouragement. All are welcome.

6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks to all delegates for attending this year's first virtual Practising Historical Geographies conference. We hope you have found it thoughtful and productive. If you would like to give feedback on this, please contact Joanne Norcup (Conference Officer).

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PHG2020 has been organised on behalf of the HGRG-RGS by Joanne Norcup (Conference Officer) and this workbook has been written by Joanne Norcup/ Geography Workshop productions on behalf of the HGRG-RGS. <https://geographyworkshop.com>

If you use this workbook beyond the HGRG Practising Historical Geography Conference 2020 in your teaching / seminars or as a reference in papers, essays, etc. please cite it using the following reference:

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geography workshop

Nostrum est
Creare Mundum
- The World is
Ours to Create